

U R B A N D I S T R I C T
O F N O R T O N .

A N N U A L R E P O R T

- of the -

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
(W. WILSON, M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O., D.P.H.)

- Including -

A N N U A L R E P O R T

of the

SENIOR PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR
(R. W. G. SINCLAIR, M.R.S.I., M.S.I.A.)

For the Year 1956.

NORTON

URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

A N N U A L R E P O R T for 1956

Public Health Officers for the Authority:

Medical Officer of Health:-

W. Wilson, M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O., D.P.H.

Senior Public Health Inspector (and Surveyor):-

R. W. G. Sinclair, M.R.S.I., M.S.I.A.

Additional Public Health Inspector and Meat Inspector:-

J. Martin, A.R.San.I.

Divisional Health Office,
The Poplars,
Burnby Lane,
Pocklington.

To: The Chairman and Members of the
Urban District Council of Norton.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour of presenting for your consideration my
Annual Report on the health and sanitary circumstances of your District
for the year 1956.

I should like to take this opportunity of thanking members
of the Public Health Committee for their support during the year, and
the staff of the Health and other Departments for their co-operation
and assistance.

I am, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

WM WILSON,

Medical Officer of Health.

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STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

Area (in acres)	2,899.
Number of inhabited houses	1,626.
Registrar-General's estimate of population	4,810.
Rateable Value	£43,087.
Sum represented by a penny rate	£170.

VITAL STATISTICS.

Live Births:	M.	F.	Total
Legitimate	33	36	69
Illegitimate	<u>4</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>5</u>
	<u>37</u>	<u>37</u>	<u>74</u>

Birth Rate 15.38 per 1,000

Illegitimate Rate 6.76% of total births.

Still Births 3.

Rate per 1,000 of the population 0.62

Deaths of infants under one year 1.

Deaths	M.	F.	Total
	29	25	54

Death Rate per 1,000 11.23

Deaths from Heart Disease	M.	F.	Total
	9	10	19

Rate per 1,000 of the population 3.95

Deaths from Vascular Lesions of the Nervous System	3	10	13
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Rate per 1,000 of the population 2.70

Deaths from Cancer	4	4	8
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Rate per 1,000 of the population 1.66

Comparative Table of Birth and Death
Rates during the year 1956.

Area	Live Births	Deaths	Deaths of Children Under One Year of Age Per 1,000 Registered Live Births.
England and Wales	(Rates per 1,000 home population)		
	15.7	11.7	23.8
Administrative County	15.74	11.33	24.20
M.B. and U.D.s	15.11	12.00	26.81
R.D.s	16.24	10.68	21.71

Table of Birth, Death and Infant Mortality Rates.

Year	Crude Birth Rate	Norton U.D.C.		Corrected Death Rate	Infant Mortality Rate
		Corrected Birth Rate	Crude Death Rate		
1948	15.4	--	8.6	--	Nil
1949	17.4	--	13.6	--	13
1950	15.6	--	10.04	--	Nil.
1951	15.0	--	13.01	--	Nil.
1952	14.8	15.2	9.87	8.78	14.
1953	14.15	14.57	13.56	12.06	14.
1954	14.90	16.39	11.18	10.39	28.
1955	16.36	18.00	14.49	13.48	25.3
1956	15.38	16.92	11.23	11.34	13.51

Table Showing Causes of Death in Norton U.D.C.

1956.

									<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total.</u>
All Causes	...	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	29	25	54
1.	Tuberculosis, respiratory	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	-	1
2.	Tuberculosis, other	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	-	-	-
3.	Syphilitic disease	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	-	-	-
4.	Diphtheria	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	-	-	-
5.	Whooping Cough	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	-	-	-
6.	Meningococcal infections	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	-	-	-
7.	Acute poliomyelitis	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	-	-	-
8.	Measles	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	-	-	-
9.	Other infective and parasitic diseases	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	-	-	-
10.	Malignant neoplasm, stomach	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	-	-	-
11.	Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	-	2
12.	Malignant neoplasm, breast	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	-	1	1
13.	Malignant neoplasm, uterus	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	-	-	-
14.	Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	3	5
15.	Leukaemia, aleukaemia	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	-	-	-
16.	Diabetes	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	-	-	-
17.	Vascular lesions of nervous system	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3	10	13
18.	Coronary disease, angina	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	7	6	13
19.	Hypertension with heart disease	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	-	-	-
20.	Other heart disease	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	4	6
21.	Other circulatory disease	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	-	1
22.	Influenza	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	-	-	-
23.	Pneumonia	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	-	1	1
24.	Bronchitis	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	-	1
25.	Other diseases of respiratory system	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	-	-	-
26.	Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	-	-	-
27.	Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	-	1
28.	Nephritis and nephrosis	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	-	-	-
29.	Hyperplasia of prostate	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	-	2
30.	Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	-	-	-
31.	Congenital malformations	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	-	-	-
32.	Other defined and ill-defined diseases	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	5	-	5
33.	Motor vehicle accidents	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	-	1
34.	All other accidents	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	-	-	-
35.	Suicide	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	-	1
36.	Homicide and operations of war	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	-	-	-

Table Showing Age and Sex Distribution of Deaths during 1956

						<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Under 1 year	...	...	...	...	...	1	-	1
1 - 4	...	...	...	...	...	-	-	-
5 - 14	...	...	...	...	...	-	-	-
15 - 24	...	...	...	...	...	1	-	1
25 - 44	...	...	...	...	...	1	-	1
45 - 54	...	...	...	...	...	3	-	3
55 - 64	...	...	...	...	...	6	2	8
65 - 74	...	...	...	...	...	9	8	17
75+	...	...	...	...	...	8	15	23
						<u>29</u>	<u>25</u>	<u>54</u>

Table Showing Age and Sex Distribution of Deaths from Cancer during 1956

						<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Under 1 year	...	...	...	...	...	-	-	-
1 - 4	...	...	...	...	...	-	-	-
5 - 14	...	...	...	...	...	-	-	-
15 - 24	...	...	...	...	...	-	-	-
25 - 44	...	...	...	...	...	-	-	-
45 - 54	...	...	...	...	...	-	-	-
55 - 64	...	...	...	...	...	2	1	3
65 - 74	...	...	...	...	...	1	3	4
75+	...	...	...	...	...	1	-	1
						<u>4</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>8</u>

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

The following cases of infectious disease have been notified during the year:-

Measles	Nil.	(28).
Scarlet Fever	Nil.	(1).
Tuberculosis, Pulmonary	1 case	(Nil)
Tuberculosis, Non-Pulmonary	1 case	(Nil.)
Whooping Cough	4 cases	(Nil.)

(Cases occurring in 1955 are shown in parenthesis).

Cases of infectious disease are admitted, when hospital treatment is necessary, to the Isolation Hospitals at York or Scarborough.

Tuberculosis.

Two new cases (male) of Tuberculosis were notified or came to notice during the year. There was one death from pulmonary tuberculosis.

At the end of 1956, cases on the Tuberculosis Register were as follows:-

Pulmonary Males	17 cases.
Non-Pulmonary Males	2 cases.
Pulmonary Females	9 cases.
Non-Pulmonary Females	4 cases.
Total:	<u>32</u> cases.

Vaccination against Smallpox.

The following table shows number of persons vaccinated or re-vaccinated during the year 1956:-

Age at Date of Vaccination:	Under 1	1 year	2 to 4	5 to 14	15 or over	Totals.
Number Vaccinated	38	-	1	-	15	54
Number Re-Vaccinated	-	-	-	-	4	4

Immunisation against Diphtheria.

The figures for immunisations carried out during the year are as follows:-

Primary Immunisation.

Aged Under 5	Aged 5 - 14	Total	Reinforcing Injections
71	-	71	93

Of the 71 children under 5 years of age who are shown as having been immunised against diphtheria, all were at the same time immunised against whooping cough.

The following table shows the position as regards the total number of children who have been immunised at any one time and also as regards those who have been immunised or re-immunised during the last five years.

Number of children who received primary or re-inforcing injections within the last 5 years (1952-56)			Number of children under 15 immunised more than 5 yrs ago (1942-51).	Total Number of Children Immunised 1942-56.	Estimated Number of Children Under 5 yrs of age.	Percent. Immunised Under 5 yrs of age
Aged Under 5	Aged 5 to 14	Total				
224	424	648	264	912	361	62.0

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA.

(a) Laboratory Facilities.

Bacteriological samples are examined at the Public Health Laboratory situated in Hull.

(b) Ambulance Service.

Ambulances stationed in Malton are available for use in the District.

(c) Nursing.

A domiciliary nursing and midwifery service is available in the District as part of the County Council's scheme under the National Health Service Act.

(d) Treatment Centres and Clinics.

These are provided by the County Council. A Child Welfare Centre is held fortnightly in the Church Hall. An Ophthalmic Clinic is held monthly. Clinics for the treatment of Venereal Disease are situated in York and Scarborough.

(e) Hospitals.

General medical and surgical cases are admitted to Hospitals at Malton, Driffield, Scarborough and York. Maternity cases go to the Westow Croft Nursing Home at Westow.

National Assistance Act, 1948.

It has not been necessary to take any action under Section 47 of this Act during the year.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

Water Supply.

The water is from a deep bore well situate in the District and is pumped to a reservoir. The water is treated by chlorination and is distributed throughout the district.

The water has been satisfactory in quality and quantity throughout the year.

Samples of water are submitted for bacteriological examination at regular intervals throughout the year.

Sewage Disposal.

A modern sewage disposal works serves the needs of the adjoining Districts of Norton and Malton.

NORTON URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE SENIOR PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

For the Year 1956.

Staff

Mr. R. W. G. Sinclair	---	Senior Public Health Inspector and Surveyor. (Public Health Inspector's, Sanitary Science, Smoke Inspection, Meat and Other Foods Certificates of the Royal Society of Health).
Mr. J. Martin	---	Meat Inspector and Additional Public Health Inspector. (Public Health Inspector's, Meat and Other Foods Certificates of the Royal Society of Health).
Mr. B. R. Lowe	---	Pupil Public Health Inspector. (Qualified as Public Health Inspector in December, 1956).

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I herewith present my report as Senior Public Health Inspector for the year 1956.

The following three tables do not include the maintenance of Council Houses.

1. Routine Inspection Work.

Table I.

Total Number of Inspections	..	..	..	..	..	..	1,567
" " " Defects Found	..	..	..	..	..	..	215
" " " Defects Remedied	..	..	..	..	..	..	170
" " " Premises Affected	..	..	..	..	..	..	141
" " " Informal Notices Served	..	..	..	..	..	..	116
" " " Informal Notices Complied With	..	..	..	..	..	..	89
" " " Statutory Notices Served	..	..	..	..	..	..	4
" " " Statutory Notices Complied With	..	..	..	..	..	..	2

Table II.

Inspection of Dwellinghouses.

Re Dirty Conditions	..	..	..	..	..	..	10
Re Other Conditions	..	..	..	..	..	..	139.

Inspections Re:

Bakehouses	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	18.
Dairies	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	16.
Drain Tests	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	61.
Food Preparing Premises	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	33.
Factories	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	44.
Food Shops	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	56.
Ice Cream Premises	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3.
Meat Inspection	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	846.
Miscellaneous Visits	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	66.
Offensive Trades	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2.
Premises re Rats	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	21.
Refuse Disposal	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	15.
Sewage Disposal	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	38.
Shops re Sanitary Conditions	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3.
Smoke Observations	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	0.
Swimming Bath	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	53.
Water Works	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	87.
Works in Progress	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	56.

Table III.

Summary of Nuisances Abated and Improvements Affected.

Dwellinghouses.

Floors Repaired or renewed	6.	Roofs repaired	3.
Ceilings	5.	Eaves, Gutters repaired or renewed	6.
Water Supplies repaired	30.	Rain Water Fall Pipes repaired	4.
Internal Water Supplies provided	8.	or renewed	
Chimney Stacks repaired	2.	Walls (External) repaired	3.
Premises Cleaned or Disinfected	2.	Walls (Internal) repaired	5.
Windows repaired or renewed	10.	Yard Surfaces repaired	13.
Miscellaneous repairs	17.		

Drains.

Cleansed	8.	Length of Drain Tested:	
Reconstructed	8.	Water	59.
		Smoke	2.

Inspection Chambers.

Built	6.
Repaired	2.

Cesspools.

Emptied	5.
Abolished	-.

Water Closets.

Provided for houses - additional	5.
Provided for houses - ex pail closets	1.
Provided for Workplaces	-.
Fittings repaired or renewed	4.

Pail Closets.

Abolished 1.

Ashbins.

Renewed 30.

New Houses Completed

- (1) Built by private owner 11.
Built by Council Nil.
- (2) During the year, the Survey of old property in the town was completed and presented to the Council. Generally, the report suggested the following position to exist in the town:-
- (a) No. of Houses for which undertakings have been received not to re-let: 12.
- (b) No. of Houses with an estimated life of under five years 17.
- (c) No. of Houses with an estimated life of approximately 5-10 years 45.
- (d) No. of Houses with an estimated life of approximately 10.-20. years 108.

3. Water Supplies.

- (a) The town continued to draw all its water from the twin boreholes situated at Howe Hill, and no shortage was experienced during the year.

The bacterial quality of the water is excellent, as the samples taken throughout the town indicate.

A new Wallace and Tiernan electricity-driven dozing machine was installed during the year for the chlorination of the water.

A very bad burst occurred on the 8" main where it crosses under the Beck Mills. While the burst was located and repaired it was necessary to supply the town on the 5" main only.

- (b) Water consumption for the year was 100,264,000 as compared with 105,259,000 in 1955.

The fall is primarily due to the reduction in metered supplies as domestic consumption fell only slightly

- (c) During the year the supply and distribution of water continued to be satisfactory.
- (d) It will be noted that, despite rising costs of electricity, labour and materials, the cost of pumping and supplying a 1,000 gallons was practically identical with the costs of 1955.

	<u>Consumption</u>	<u>Gross Cost</u>	<u>Cost per 1,000 gallons.</u>
<u>1952.</u> (last complete year of Diesel Drive)	80,977,000	£2,901	8.597d.
<u>1954.</u> (first complete year of Electric Drive)	97,509,000	£2,691	6.623d.
<u>1955.</u>	105,259,000	£2,809	6.406d.
<u>1956.</u>	100,264,000	£2,685 (approx.)	6.427d.

Annual Consumption.

Norton U.D.C. population	4,840 (estimated)
Total Supplies all purposes	100,264,000
Metered Supplies (Industrial)	29,256,000
Domestic Supplies only	71,008,000

Consumption per Head per Day.

All purposes	56.75 gallons (1955 - 59.50 gallons)
Domestic purposes	40.21 gallons (1955 - 40.54 gallons)

Sampling of Water.

Samples of water for bacteriological analysis were taken regularly throughout the district. The two unsatisfactory samples were both due to local sources of pollution, namely, a leaking service pipe to a standtap and the difficulty of sterilising a small domestic filter attached to a tap.

Table IV.

Type of Water	No. of Samples Taken	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory
Chlorinated	81	79	2
Untreated	0	0	0
Totals:	81	79	2

During the year a full chemical analysis of the water was made and the analyst's remarks were:-

"Judging from the above results, I am of the opinion that this water is fit for human consumption."

4. Swimming Baths.

Owing to the extremely inclement summer experienced, the attendance at the Council's Swimming Pool was very low.

During the year a small piece of land at the western end of the baths was purchased and it was hoped to carry out extensions in time for the 1957 season. The extensions envisaged included lengthening the pool by some 12' 0" and the provision of fourteen additional dressing bunks.

The water is chlorinated by an automatic dosing apparatus and samples are taken regularly.

<u>No. of Samples Taken</u>	<u>Satisfactory</u>	<u>Unsatisfactory</u>
8	6	2

5. Drainage and Sewerage.

(a) The 3 sewage pumping stations situated in the area continued to function well.

(b) On two occasions during the year, surcharging of the sewers took place in certain lengths of Langton Road and Welham Road. I am of the opinion that the main source of surcharging in Welham Road is the flood water off Whitewall Hill. The County Council were approached and agreed to construct a number of soakaway gullies on the Hill itself to try and relieve matters.

(c) During the year, the Council bought a hand-operated set of sewer boring equipment. This would appear on first results to be an extremely useful purchase.

6. Public Cleansing.

The public cleansing services have been carried out in a satisfactory manner throughout the year and generally a weekly collection of refuse maintained.

The Council took possession of a new Karrier Bantam in the first month of the year.

As usual, refuse disposal continued to be a major headache throughout the year.

The small site at Grange Farm was filled in and the Maudon Grove tip practically completed.

Permission was given to obtain a geologist's report on the dangers, if any, of contaminating the water supply obtained from Howe Hill by tipping in the dis-used quarry at the entrance to the Gallops on Beverley Road.

The geologist's report being favourable, negotiations were opened for the purchase of the site and obtaining the necessary Planning permission. Although the Contract for the land had not been signed, the owner, in October, gave permission for tipping to commence.

The site should give the Council several years useful tipping.

7. Salvage.

The income from salvage during the year was very disappointing, great difficulty being experienced in finding a market for baled waste paper. Rather than discontinue collections which may have been difficult to restart, it was necessary to burn some 20 tons of waste paper. The income from salvage during the year was as follows:-

Waste Paper	£188. 1s. 1d.
Scrap Metal	2. 10s. 0d.
	<u>£190. 11s. 1d.</u>

8. Meat Inspection.

The following tables set out in detail give some indication of the work involved in meat inspection in the two factories.

The downward trend in the number of pigs slaughtered still continued.

A great deal of extra work was caused by the incidence of anthrax among pigs in the area, and in five instances the disease was confirmed in carcasses of pigs at one of the bacon factories.

In all instances, the infected premises were disinfected and the carcasses destroyed by burning.

<u>Year</u>	<u>Pigs Slaughtered</u>	<u>Carcasses Condemned for Tuberculosis</u>	<u>Percentage Condemned</u>
1952	170,841	273	.15%
1953	174,897	140	.080%
1954	194,387	124	.064%
1955	147,002	75	.051%
1956	124,426	47	.038%

As in the past, if excessive condemnations are noted from any individual producer, the respective County Veterinary Officer is notified, who causes an inspection of the premises and stock to be made.

In co-operation with the producers and the Ministry, when requested, special detailed reports are provided on certain pigs.

Disposal of Condemned Meat.

The same methods of disposal for condemned meats and offals operated as in the past.

Bowers Bacon Factory operate a Iwel Labs Destructor and deal with all condemned meat on the premises.

Yorkshire Farmers' Bacon Factory transport their condemned meat (after staining with green dye) to their Sherburn Factory for disposal. At intervals a spot check is carried out by informing the Meat Inspector at Sherburn of the contents of a particular wagon.

A small proportion of condemned plucks are used by the Welham Fish Hatcheries.

The following table shows the number of pigs which have been inspected at the two factories and indicates the incidence and variety of the various diseases encountered.

Yorkshire Farmers' Bacon Factory.

Total Kill 103,407.

Amounts Condemned.

Pork			Offal		
Description	No.	Wt. in lbs.	Description	No.	Wt. in lbs.
Carcases	169	25,166	Plucks	2,893	20,251
Part Carcases	95	1,884	(Hearts,		
Heads	6,500	65,000	Lungs,		
			Livers,		
			Trachea,		
			Oesophagus)		
			Intestines	4,177	29,239
			(Stomach,		
			Spleen and		
			Mesentery)		

Total Weight Condemned.

Pork - 92,050 lbs (approx. 41 tons)
Offal - 49,490 lbs (approx. 22 tons)

Bower's Bacon Factory.

Total Kill 21,019.

Amounts Condemned

Pork			Offal		
Description	No.	Wt. in lbs.	Description	No.	Wt. in lbs.
Carcases	43	6,547	Plucks	697	4,879
Part Carcases	30	810			
Heads	769	7,690	Intestines	717	5,019

Total Weight Condemned.

Pork - 15,047 lbs (approx. $6\frac{3}{4}$ tons)
Offal - 9,898 lbs (approx. $4\frac{1}{2}$ tons)

Table VI.

Carcases and Offals Inspected and Condemned in whole or part.

	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Horses
Number killed	-	-	-	-	124,426	-
Number inspected	-	-	-	-	124,426	-
<u>All diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticercosis</u>						
Whole carcasses condemned	-	-	-	-	168	-
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	-	-	-	-	5,966	-
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis or cysticercosis	-	-	-	-	4.9%	-
<u>Tuberculosis only</u>						
Whole carcasses condemned	-	-	-	-	47	-
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	-	-	-	-	9,322	-
Percentage of the number inspected infected with tuberculosis	-	-	-	-	7.5%	-
<u>Cysticercosis.</u>						
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	-	-	-	-	-	-
Carcasses submitted to treatment by refrigeration.	-	-	-	-	-	-
Generalised and totally condemned	-	-	-	-	-	-

Table VII.

Summary of the Diseases in respect of Carcases and all
Organs being totally condemned. (Both Factories).

Disease	Number	Disease	Number
Generalised Tuberculosis	47	Acute Swine Erysipelas	1
Accident	74	Pyæmia	0
Jaundice	6	Multiple Abscesses	14
Septic Peritonitis	5	Septicaemia	5
Septic Pericarditis	1	Swine Fever	0
Septic Pleurisy	3	Lymphocarcinoma	1
Generalised Oedema	0	Decomposition	0
Pathological Emaciation	19	Acute Fever	12
Acute Congestion	1	Gangrenous Pneumonia	9
Multiple Gangrenous Wounds	0	Extensive and Severe Bruising	6
Leukaemia	1	Uraemia	1
Septic Arthritis	4	Anthrax	5
			<u>215</u>

9. Milk.

Regular sampling of milk is carried out in the town.

Results of Tests.

Designation	Samples Taken	Methylene Blue Test		Phosphatase Test	
		Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory
Pasteurised	10	9	1	9	1
T.T.	0	0	0	0	0
Ungraded	1	1	0	0	0

Biological Examination.

Designation	Samples Submitted	Tuberculosis		Brucella Abortus	
		Positive	Negative	Positive	Negative
Pasteurised	0	-	-	-	-
T.T.	0	-	-	-	-
Ungraded	6	0	6	2	4

Milk (Special Designations)(Specified Areas) Order, 1956.

The above Order making the Norton Urban District a designated area came into force on October 1st, 1956. Under the order, it is an offence to retail milk which is not designated "Tuberculin Tested", "Pasteurised" or "Sterilised".

The following licences were in operation during the year:-

- 4 Main dealers licenced to sell T.T. Milk.
- 2 Supplementary Dealers licenced to sell T.T. milk.
- 6 Main Dealers licenced to sell Pasteurised Milk.
- 1 Supplementary Dealer licenced to sell Pasteurised Milk.

10. Food Hygiene.

During the year, the Food Hygiene Regulations came into force.

The method adopted was to circularise all food premises in the area giving them details of the Regulations.

A detailed inspection was then made of the food shops, etc., and a specially prepared form completed.

Roughly, the food premises can be divided as follows:-

General Food Retailers	23
Licenced Premises	9
Fish Friers	3
Wet Fish Shops	2
Bake houses	2
Butchers	7
Greengrocers	2
Confectioners	2
Buffet	1.
Canteens	5.
Total:	<u>56</u>

The following is a list of contraventions noted on the first inspection:

Rooms structural	8	Rooms cleanliness	21.
Equipment cleanliness	3	Exposed Foodstuffs	9.
Personal cleanliness	4	Food wrappings	1.
Sanitary Conveniences - Structure	19	Sanitary Conveniences - Cleanliness	4.
Hand washing notices	2	Water supply	4.
Hot water supply	17	Personal washing facilities	3.
First Aid Equipment	3	Storage for clothing	1.
Washing facilities for equipment	3	Transport of Meat-coverings	1.
Mobile Shops - structural	5	Transport of Meat-receptacle	1.
Mobile Shops - washing facilities.	2	Transport of Meat-cleanliness	1.
		Mobile Shops - Water supply.	2.
		Mobile Shops - Name and Address	1.

In all cases, the occupiers/owners were notified of the contravention to the Regulations. Follow up visits were in hand at the end of the year.

Premises Registered under S.16 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955.

Fish Frying	3.
Manufacture of Sausages, etc.	4.
Sale of Ice Cream	13.

11. Council Houses.

At the end of 1956, the Council owned the following houses and flats:

(a) Four bedroomed houses	.. ..	25.
(b) Three bedroomed houses	.. ..	172.
(c) Two bedroomed houses	.. ..	49.
(d) Two bedroomed temporary bungalows	.. ..	6.
(e) Three bedroomed flat	.. ..	1.
(f) Two bedroomed flats	.. ..	39.
(g) One bedroomed flats	.. ..	53.
(h) Private houses purchased	.. ..	4.
		<u>349.</u>

In addition, the Council manage and control forty three-bedroomed houses belonging to the Workmen's Housing Association Ltd., making a total of 389 Council Controlled Houses.

The maintenance of the houses is carried out partly by direct labour and partly by local building contractors who are allocated the work on a rota basis.

An endeavour is made to carry out the external repainting of the houses on a five-yearly cycle; this, in my opinion, is the absolute maximum houses should go between painting, having due regard to the appearance of the Council house estates and protection of the property.

In the majority of the pre-war houses the fireplaces (combination ranges) have now reached the end of their useful life. The Council's offer to pay the cost of fixing if the tenant purchased a new fireplace met with an encouraging response, but we have now practically exhausted the number of tenants who are prepared to co-operate to this extent.

The number of visits made to Council controlled houses in respect of repairs only totalled 440.

12. Rodent Control.

During the year, rodent control included the treatment of both refuse tips on two occasions, and 10% of all manholes on the sewerage system.

I would like to thank Mr. J. Martin, Meat Inspector and Additional Public Health Inspector and Mr. B. R. Lowe, Pupil Public Health Inspector, for their loyal help and co-operation throughout the year.

The latter is to be congratulated on qualifying as a Public Health Inspector.

I am, Ladies and Gentlemen,
Your obedient servant,

R. W. G. SINCLAIR,
Senior Public Health Inspector.

June, 1957.

